

***In the Claims***

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1        1.    [Currently amended] A method for processing invoices  
2        by having the individual employee of an enterprise creating  
3        an original order for goods and services for end-use by said  
4        individual employee determine that a resulting invoice  
5        should be paid or not, comprising the steps of:

6            receiving at an enterprise accounting and catalog  
7            system from said individual employee a requisition for  
8            goods or services from a vendor;

9            said enterprise accounting and catalog system preparing  
10          from said requisition a purchase order;

11          said enterprise accounting and catalog system  
12          submitting said purchase order selectively as one of an  
13          EDI message and a paper purchasing document to said  
14          vendor;

15          receiving from said vendor an invoice for said goods or  
16          services as one of an electronic invoice and a paper

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17 invoice, said electronic invoice being received for  
18 processing by said enterprise accounting and catalog  
19 system and said paper invoice being received for  
20 processing to said enterprise accounting and catalog  
21 system by accounts payable personnel;

22 preparing an invoice image of an invoice received for  
23 said goods or services or commodities ordered by said  
24 individual employee;

25 storing said invoice image in an image store;

26 keying said image to invoice data;

27 said enterprise accounting and catalog system  
28 communicating by electronic mail an invoice  
29 confirmation request to said individual creating said  
30 original order, said request instructing said  
31 individual employee to log on to said enterprise  
32 accounting and catalog system, including said invoice  
33 data and a link to said invoice image, and specifying  
34 that said invoice is subject to one of negative  
35 confirmation and positive confirmation processing;

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36 providing at a user workstation a search interface in  
37 said enterprise accounting and catalog system for said  
38 individual employee to enter criteria and have links to  
39 images of invoices that match said criteria be  
40 displayed at said user workstation; and

41 responsive to selection of ~~said link~~ a link by said  
42 individual, displaying said invoice image for approval  
43 by said individual creating said original order  
44 selectively by said confirmation and positive  
45 confirmation processing.

1 2. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising  
2 the step of:

3 preparing said invoice images by scanning paper  
4 invoices received from a vendor.

1 3. [Original] The method of claim 2, further comprising  
2 the step of:

3 preparing other of said invoice images by converting

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4 electronic invoices received from a vendor into an  
5 image file representation having the look and feel of a  
6 paper invoice.

1 4. [Currently amended] The method of claim 1, said  
2 invoice confirmation request advising said individual  
3 employee to process said confirmation as negative  
4 confirmation or a positive confirmation.

1 5. [Currently amended] The method of claim 4, said  
2 invoice confirmation request further advising said  
3 individual employee to log on to a front-end requisition and  
4 catalog server to view invoices for confirmation.

1 6. [Currently amended] The method of claim 5, further  
2 comprising the step responsive to said individual employee  
3 logging on to said front-end server of displaying a list of  
4 invoices awaiting confirmation and responsive to user  
5 selection of a selected invoice, presenting images of  
6 invoices corresponding to links selected by said individual  
7 employee.

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1        7.    [Currently amended] The method of claim 1, further  
2        comprising the steps of presenting to said individual  
3        employee an interface for selecting images of invoices  
4        matching a selection criteria.

1        8.    [Canceled]

1        9.    [Currently amended] A system for processing invoices  
2        by having the individual employee creating an original order  
3        for goods or services for end use by said individual  
4        determine that a resulting invoice should be paid or not,  
5        comprising:

6                a front-end requisition and catalog system;

7                a back-end procurement services system;

8                a scanner for scanning images of invoices;

9                an image system and store for storing said scanned  
10                images and serving them to said workstation keyed to

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11           said invoice;

12           a workstation selectively receiving user entry from  
13           said individual employee of a requisition request for  
14           goods or services for end-use by said individual  
15           employee, receiving confirmation requests, and viewing  
16           images of invoices from said image system and store;  
17           said confirmation request instructing said individual  
18           employee to log on to said back-end system to view and  
19           approve an invoice by a specified one of negative and  
20           positive confirmation processing;

21           said front-end system selectively receiving said  
22           requisition requests from said workstation, forwarding  
23           said requisition requests to said back-end system, and  
24           receiving confirmation requests from said back-end  
25           system for forwarding to said workstation; and

26           said back-end system selectively issuing purchase  
27           orders against said requisitions to a vendor  
28           selectively as one of an electronic and paper purchase  
29           order, receiving and processing invoices electronic  
30           invoices directly from said vendor and paper invoices  
31           as received and processed by accounts payable

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32        personnel, keying invoice images to invoice  
33        information, and processing confirmation requests to  
34        said front-end system for communication to said  
35        workstation for approval by said individual employee  
36        creating said original order.

1        10. [Previously presented] A program storage device  
2        readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of  
3        instructions executable by a machine to perform a method for  
4        processing invoices by having the individual employee  
5        creating an original order determine that a resulting  
6        invoice should be paid or not, said method comprising:

7                preparing an invoice image;

8                storing said invoice image in an image store;

9                keying said image to invoice data;

10               communicating invoice confirmation request to said  
11               individual employee, said request including said  
12               invoice data and a link to said invoice image;

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13 responsive to requester selection of said link,  
14 displaying said invoice image to said individual  
15 employee for approval by said individual employee  
16 creating said original order.

1 11. [Currently amended] A computer program product or  
2 computer program element for processing invoices by having  
3 the individual employee creating an original order for goods  
4 and services for end-use by said individual employee  
5 determine that a resulting invoice should be paid or not  
6 according to steps comprising:

7 receiving at an enterprise accounting and catalog  
8 system from said individual employee a requisition for  
9 goods or services from a vendor;

10 said enterprise accounting and catalog system preparing  
11 from said requisition a purchase order;

12 said enterprise accounting and catalog system  
13 submitting said purchase order selectively as one of an  
14 EDI message and a paper purchasing document to said  
15 vendor;

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16        receiving from said vendor an invoice for said goods or  
17        services as one of an electronic invoice and a paper  
18        invoice, said electronic invoice being received for  
19        processing by said enterprise accounting and catalog  
20        system and said paper invoice being received for  
21        processing to said enterprise accounting and catalog  
22        system by accounts payable personnel;

23        preparing an invoice image of an invoice received for  
24        said goods or services ordered by said individual  
25        employee;

26        storing said invoice image in an image store;

27        keying said image to invoice data;

28        said enterprise accounting and catalog system  
29        communicating by electronic mail communicating an  
30        invoice confirmation request to said individual  
31        employee, said request instructing said individual  
32        employee to log on to said enterprise accounting and  
33        catalog system, including said invoice data and a link  
34        to said invoice image, and specifying that said invoice  
35        is subject to one of negative confirmation and positive

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36           confirmation processing;

37           providing at a user workstation a search interface in  
38           said enterprise accounting and catalog system for said  
39           individual employee to enter criteria and have links to  
40           images of invoices that match said criteria be  
41           displayed at said user workstation; and

42           responsive to selection of ~~said link~~ a link by said  
43           individual employee, displaying said invoice image for  
44           approval by ~~said said~~ said individual employee creating  
45           said original order selectively by said confirmation  
46           and positive confirmation processing.

1       12. [Previously presented] The program storage device of  
2       claim 10, said method further comprising:

3       preparing said invoice images by scanning paper  
4       invoices received from a vendor.

1       13. [Previously presented] The program storage device of  
2       claim 12, said method further comprising:

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3 preparing other of said invoice images by converting  
4 electronic invoices received from a vendor into an  
5 image file representation having the look and feel of a  
6 paper invoice.

1 14. [Previously presented] The program storage device of  
2 claim 10, said invoice confirmation request advising said  
3 individual employee to process said confirmation as negative  
4 confirmation or a positive confirmation.

1 15. [Previously presented] The program storage device of  
2 claim 14, said invoice confirmation request further advising  
3 said individual employee to log on to a front- end  
4 requisition and catalog server to view invoices for  
5 confirmation.

1 16. [Previously presented] The program storage device of  
2 claim 15, said method further comprising responsive to said  
3 individual employee logging on to said front-end server of  
4 displaying a list of invoices awaiting confirmation and

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5 responsive to selection of a selected invoice by said  
6 individual employee, presenting images of invoices  
7 corresponding to links selected by said individual employee.

1 17. [Previously presented] The program storage device of  
2 claim 10, said method further comprising presenting to said  
3 individual employee an interface for selecting images of  
4 invoices matching a selection criteria.

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